

# The Sun

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## Thanksgiving.

Every man knows today his own reasons  
for thankfulness or for lamentation over  
his lot, but that the vast majority of the  
people of this country, taken together, are  
now in a happier and more prosperous  
condition than ever before in their history  
and than any other people in the world, is  
easily proved.

This Republic is at peace, except so far as  
it is stamping out the embers of the prac-  
tically extinguished fire of insurrection in  
the Philippines. The task has been pushed  
through during the last month, with the  
aid of necessary reinforcements, and with  
a loss to our troops which is comparatively  
insignificant. All England is in mourning  
because of the direful slaughter in South  
Africa and the direful slaughter in that  
the killing and wounding have only begun.  
Without the end of sanguinary warfare in  
the Philippines is close at hand if not  
already reached.

The business prosperity which began to  
set in as soon as the American people had  
vindicated so splendidly the financial honor  
and integrity of the Nation in 1896 has  
since steadily gathered force and is now  
extending to every form of industry and  
enterprise. Wages are high and the home  
and foreign demand for our products is  
great beyond precedent. The promise of a  
long continuance of this prosperity is  
brighter than at any past period.

We are approaching the year of a Presi-  
dential election, yet there is none of the  
alarm as to the coincident and consequent  
disturbance to trade and financial con-  
ditions which the near arrival of such  
a contest has usually excited. Particu-  
larly the main issue to be met is already  
settled and the interests of the  
people dictate the decision so plainly that  
no doubt of the result impairs the con-  
fidence with which the future is regarded  
by the markets and the exchanges. The  
prosperity, therefore, is of a Presidential  
campaign in 1900 which will interfere with  
the progress and prosperity of the busi-  
ness of the Republic to a far less degree  
than any past contest of the kind, though  
more than fifteen million electors will cast  
their ballots in November, 1900.

The condition of the people as to health  
and security is better than ever before.  
Because of advances in medicine and sur-  
gery and sanitary protection and precau-  
tion the average of life is increasing.  
Science is steadily extending to all society  
blessings and privileges once obtainable  
only by the few, or not even possible to  
them. The rich are not growing richer  
and the poor poorer, as demagogues and  
social charlatans assert, but throughout  
our society there is a leveling upward.

Luxuries once confined to princes are now  
within the easy reach of everybody. Rags  
and tatters have disappeared from our  
streets. Drunkenness is decreasing.

If, therefore, a man dismisses from con-  
sideration all which may be peculiar to  
himself and looks abroad over society, he  
will find abundant opportunity for rejoic-  
ing and hope for the American people as a  
whole. It is preparing to enter upon the  
second century of its national existence  
happier, more united, more prosperous,  
more powerful in the world than ever  
before in its history. Thus it can  
look ahead into the twentieth century with  
a far greater assurance of progress and  
improvement in all the arts and blessings  
of civilization than any first man began  
to contend with the forces of nature and  
the obstacles to his highest possible de-  
velopment.

## The Political Situation in France.

The Cabinet, headed by M. WALDE-  
REMARQUE, although repeatedly attacked,  
continues to retain the confidence of the  
Chamber of Deputies. This unexpected  
phenomenon is, no doubt, due, in part, to  
the difficulty of uniting the elements of  
opposition, but largely, also, to the  
belief current among sensible Parisians  
that the success of the coming Election  
may be seriously impaired by a new  
Ministerial crisis.

It will be remembered that, last spring,  
after Premier DREYFUS's resignation, up-  
ward of a week elapsed during which  
France practically possessed no executive,  
because President LUGNET was unable to  
find any influential Republican who would  
undertake the task of forming a Cabinet.  
For a time it looked as if he would have  
to fall back on the expedient of naming a  
Ministry *ad interim*, which, if it could  
secure the assent of the Senate, would dis-  
solve the present Parliament and order a  
new general election. President LUGNET  
naturally shrank from encountering the  
risks incident to an appeal to the people at  
that time, when, owing to the prevalence  
and violence of the anti-revisionist senti-  
ment, the avowed or secret enemies of the  
Republic might have triumphed at the  
ballot box. There was even more danger  
of such an outcome than there had been when  
the President was at its height, and when,  
when it will be remembered, the present  
political system was supposed to have been  
saved only through the ruthless exercise  
by M. CONSTANS of the great powers vested  
in the Minister of the Interior.

So long as the present Cabinet existed,  
there is no reason to apprehend a collision  
between the friends and foes of the Republic  
at the ballot box before the expiration of  
the Chamber's statutory term; neither are  
there any indications of a revolutionary  
movement on the part of the army or of  
the Paris mob. For the moment, DREYFUS  
seems to have been forgotten by the mass  
of Frenchmen; DEBOUTTE has lost most  
of the influence he once possessed; GRUN-  
del, the ex-cripple, is a laughing stock.  
Scarcely a voice has been raised in protest  
against the disciplinary treatment to which  
generals of the highest rank have been  
subjected by the Marquis de GALLIFFET, the  
Minister of War, who has resumed the  
absolute control over the army which be-  
longed to his office, but which had been  
renounced by one of his predecessors.

Then, again, it might have been presumed  
that the present Cabinet, made up, as it is,  
of most heterogeneous factions, would fall

between two stools if it attempted on the  
one hand to fulfill its obligations to the  
Catholic Church, and, on the other, to for-  
bid the Jesuits to exercise educational  
functions. As a matter of fact, it has secured  
from the Chamber, though not by a  
very large majority, a provisional approval  
of its campaign against the Jesuits; while  
on Monday, M. DELCASSÉ, the Minister for  
Foreign Affairs, although apparently de-  
serted by his Socialist supporters, secured  
an appropriation for the Embassy at the  
Vatican, which is clearly indispensable, so  
long as France adheres to the Concordat.

While the Government has thus managed  
to sustain itself in the Chamber, the Sen-  
ate, in its capacity of a High Court of  
Justice, is going on with the trial of  
the alleged conspirators against the Repu-  
blic. Comparatively little attention is  
paid to the proceedings, and no public  
demonstration need be feared if most of  
the accused persons should be convicted  
and sentenced to imprisonment. Thus far,  
in truth, everything seems to give an  
assurance of the tranquillity which is recog-  
nized by shrewd Parisians as an essential  
condition of the Exhibition's success.  
There would be, for the moment, no cloud  
on the horizon if decent Frenchmen could  
contrive to stop the abuse of the English,  
and even of Queen Victoria, in which some  
of the minor boulevard journals indulge.

## The Lamentable Backslidings of Joe Sibley.

The Hon. JOSEPH C. SIBLEY, who was  
elected to Congress from the Twenty-  
seventh Pennsylvania district last year,  
defeating the sitting member, the Hon.  
CHARLES W. STONE, is one of the richest,  
briskest and most popular of the Keystone  
Bryanites. The Democrats of district after  
district have pleaded with him to become  
their candidate for Congress. His political  
colors have been fiercely ardent. There  
may have been older silver soldiers, but  
there have been no better. He has been  
close to the bosom of Col. BRYAN, who has  
been his treasured guest. BRYAN and JOE  
SIBLEY is a ticket of which some tender  
Democratic souls have dreamed.

Such was JOE SIBLEY, but what is he  
now? Alas! We have to record that JOE  
SIBLEY is now worshipping the golden  
calves of Bethel. In an interview published  
in the *Philadelphia North American* Mr.  
SIBLEY declares that "free silver is no  
longer an issue." "The great prosperity  
which the country is now enjoying," he  
continues, "ought to be evidence enough to  
convince anybody that the financial policy  
of the present Administration is all right  
on that question."

We can see the sorrowful wonder on Col.  
BRYAN's face as he puts anti-silver on his  
fifth rib after this stab from a silver dagger  
and a friendly hand. "How can a Democrat  
enjoy prosperity?" the Colonel is asking  
himself. "If free silver is dead, what is  
alive in my outfit? And, O, to think that  
JOE SIBLEY should have turned traitor to  
the cause of humanity and the money of the  
producing classes! I am distressed for  
thee, my brother JOSEPH!"

To make the situation more acute, the  
Hon. JOE SIBLEY jumps with all his weight  
on Col. BRYAN's great anti-expansion issue:  
"If President McKinley should adopt any  
policy in the future than he has pursued since  
the beginning of the war with Spain, he would  
go down into history the most generally con-  
demned President this country ever had."

There will be tears and breaking hearts  
for this.

## The Caucus Currency Bill.

The Currency bill prepared by a caucus  
committee of the new House of Representa-  
tives for submission to the House at its  
forthcoming session and published yester-  
day will have to undergo a great deal of  
alteration and amendment to make it har-  
monize with existing law, as well as effect  
the purpose of its authors. That alteration  
and amendment it will doubtless receive in  
the course of its progress through Congress.

It has first to be approved by a new cau-  
cus committee, and then accepted by the  
House Committee on Currency and Banking  
and by it reported to the House. It will not  
be considered in Committee of the Whole  
House, then passed—if it passes at all—by  
the House, and then transmitted to the  
Senate. In the Senate, again, it will have  
to be considered by the Committee on  
Finance and reported for action by the full  
body. A disagreement between the Senate  
and the House is probable and a Con-  
gressional committee will need to be appointed  
to devise terms of adjustment between the  
two. It is, therefore, unlikely that the bill  
will become a law in its present shape.

The first section of the proposed bill is  
evidently drawn for the purpose of quiet-  
ing the doubts which have been raised by  
ill-informed newspapers and politicians  
in regard to the gold standard. It de-  
clares that the standard unit of value  
"shall" consist of twenty-five and eight-  
tenths grains of gold nine-tenths fine, as if  
it did not now consist of just that quantity  
of gold, and the committee in recom-  
mendation accompanying the bill recommend  
that the nation "shall" adopt the gold  
standard, as if it had not yet done so. This  
is historically false and politically a blunder.

The act of Congress of Feb. 12, 1873,  
known as the Mint act, expressly made  
100 parts of pure gold and 100  
parts of silver the standard for gold coins,  
and the gold dollar twenty-five and eight-  
tenths grains weight the unit of value. To  
say, in effect, that this act is not now in  
force is pure folly.

The second section of the bill provides  
that all interest-bearing obligations of the  
United States for the payment of money  
"now existing" shall be payable in gold.  
This is a change in the agreement by  
holders of existing obligations payable in  
"coin" to accept silver dollars in payment,  
which will not be binding on the nation, if,  
hereafter it chooses to dispute it. The  
section further declares that "all" obli-  
gations, public and private, shall be per-  
formed in conformity with the gold stand-  
ard and then immediately declares that  
"nothing herein contained shall affect the  
present legal-tender quality of the silver  
dollars." Here is a contradiction which  
needs to be removed.

In the bill's third section and in several other  
places the bill speaks of "United States  
notes and Treasury notes issued under the  
act of July 14, 1890." The Treasury notes  
issued under the act of July 14, 1890, are  
the \$340,000,000 of old legal tender  
notes were not issued under the act of  
July 14, 1890, but under acts passed long  
before that date. The language of the bill  
in this respect needs to be made clearer.

The provisions of the fourth section for  
the maintenance of the gold reserve fund  
seem to make it the duty of the Secretary  
of the Treasury to keep the fund up to the  
limit of 25 per cent. of the volume  
of notes now outstanding, without regard  
to the amount retired. The whole of the  
notes might be paid in and redeemed, and  
yet, apparently, bonds would have to be  
sold to make up the original 25 per

cent. The selling of bonds is, indeed,  
left to the discretion of the Secretary of  
the Treasury, but his duty in regard to it  
should be more explicitly defined.

Power is also given to the Secretary in  
his discretion to exchange gold coin for  
"any other money issued by the United  
States." This seems to embrace the silver  
dollars, but a silverite Secretary might  
think otherwise, and in the exercise of his  
discretion refuse to give gold for them.  
This possible silverite Secretary has been  
the great bugbear of the currency reform-  
ers, and if his power for mischief is to be  
destroyed no discretion should be given him  
in regard to the matter.

The provisions of the bill relating to the  
issue of bank notes virtually amount to  
paying the national banks a bonus of 2  
per cent. and more per annum for issuing  
currency which they can lend out for all the  
interest they can get. The nation is to  
guarantee the notes, redeem them on de-  
mand, assume their payment, when the  
banks become them full and, besides, let  
an interest on the bonds deposited as se-  
curity for the notes. Why the nation should  
not issue the notes directly, itself, and can-  
cel an equal amount of bonds, we should be  
glad to hear explained.

Many other matters in the bill call for  
unfavorable comment, but we let them pass  
for the present.

## Russia's Open Door.

The railroad between Tientsin and  
Port Arthur, the Chinese harbors acquired  
by Russia on the straits of Peichili, was  
opened last week. It is the southern ter-  
minus of the line now building from the  
Trans-Siberian railroad through Manchuria  
to the gulf of Peichili. Port Arthur is Rus-  
sia's new naval station and Tientsin is to  
be exclusively a commercial port free to all  
the world. Plans for the breakwaters and  
other harbor improvements at this new  
business center and for the city of Dally,  
which the czar has ordered to be built, are  
all prepared and the expenditure thus far  
authorized is \$3,750,000.

The agreement between China and Russia  
provided that the port of Tientsin should  
be maintained for the benefit of all who  
reside in or trade with the Far East, and in  
his order of August last the czar declared  
that it was to be absolutely a free port. In  
that proclamation the czar said: "We have  
succeeded in attaining our historic aim, a  
rapprochement between the peoples of the  
West and East."

The fact that her great European ports  
are on landlocked waters whose outlets to  
the ocean are in foreign hands has affected  
Russia's trade policy profoundly. So  
eager is Russia to produce herself all  
that her people consume that she main-  
tains a heavy import tax upon many  
articles of which the home supply is still  
very inadequate. It is only recently that  
the Government has decided to admit free  
for a limited period some classes of agri-  
cultural machinery that are sorely needed  
and are not yet produced in the country.

A diametrically opposite policy is pursued  
in eastern Siberia, whose vast mineral  
and agricultural resources require machin-  
ery and other aids which European Russia  
can not yet supply. Vladivostok is one of  
the freest ports in the world. Only a few  
articles like petroleum and alcoholic prod-  
ucts are required to pay duty. But Rus-  
sia does not expect always to maintain  
open doors on its Pacific coast. The  
year 1900 has been fixed as the limit  
of the free trade policy on the Asian coast  
of the empire, the idea being that the de-  
velopment of Russian and Siberian manu-  
factures and the completion of the Trans-  
Siberian railroad will by that time enable  
the home manufacturers and farmers to  
produce everything that is needed for the  
further development of the vast domain of  
the czar.

Meanwhile Russia is securing a firm hold  
upon the Chinese market and commercial  
rivalry cannot deprive her of her geo-graphi-  
cal advantage in developing this field.  
But the policy of the open door, which the  
czar himself has announced for the port of  
Tientsin, will prevail throughout the  
entire region and competition will not be  
stifled by the fact that Russia is China's  
next-door neighbor.

## An Issue Disposed.

The grand Tagalog republic of WASH-  
INGTON, D. C., has a government  
recognized by the Anti-Slavery League,  
is shattered even as a fragment of the im-  
agination, which is about all it ever amount-  
ed to. The "Congress" has been dissolved.  
The capital is in AGUINALDO's shoes and liable  
to be arrested at any moment. The rebels  
in the north are on the run. The rebels in  
the south are going home, convinced that  
the jig is up. Only the rump of rebellion is  
left in Luzon. The Mindanao rebels are  
giving up their guns. The little row is  
about over.

The plight and ruin of AGUINALDO are the  
political plight and ruin of his supporters  
in the United States. They have not a leg  
left to stand on. Their hopes and their pre-  
dictions have been baffled. The American  
authority over American territory has been  
destroyed. The bubble of an independent  
Filipino republic has been burst. Terri-  
bly, the process of expansion is practi-  
cally at a standstill. The political aspects have  
yet to be considered, but the fact and the  
fact itself is fruitless to strive. Arms and  
generals have knocked anti-expansion into  
a cockle shell.

All that is left to the Malay representa-  
tives of our ATKINSONS is bushwhacking  
and assassination.

So goes another Democratic issue,  
smashed not merely before the meeting of  
the Democratic National Convention, but  
before the meeting of Congress.

On Boston Common at 11:15 A. M. to-  
day, the Hon. ALLEN ATKINSON will under-  
take to eat a grilled jawbone and one por-  
ringer of soup anti-imperial cooked by his  
own hands, as a testimony against the  
expansionists, and the Hon. GAMALIEL BARBOUR  
will tear his name into pieces and distribute  
them to the spectators.

Two committees of Pennsylvania Republi-  
cans have been appointed to foster the pro-  
ject of holding the next national convention  
at Philadelphia, at which city in 1896 the first  
national convention of the Republican party  
was held and at which was held in 1872 the  
last convention at which a Republican Presi-  
dent was re-elected who was re-elected to  
the office. It is the duty of the committee  
of the members of the Republican National  
Committee which meets in Washington two  
weeks hence to fix the time and place for the  
1900 convention, that Philadelphia has in the  
buildings of the Export Exhibition a place  
suitable for the convention. If necessary, an  
auditorium accommodating 20,000 people  
could be constructed under the roof of the  
Exhibition main building. It is pointed out  
that New York, Baltimore, Boston and Pitts-  
burg have not asked for the convention; but  
Cincinnati and Cleveland are politically  
unstable and that Philadelphia will be the  
only large Eastern city in the land. St. Louis  
was the place of the Republican Convention of  
1892, and the experiment of 1892 in holding

the convention at a city not easily accessible  
and not of the first class in population is  
not likely to be repeated. Under the cir-  
cumstances, as the Philadelphia believe, the  
choices of the convention city will narrow down  
to Chicago and Philadelphia with greater ad-  
vantages on the side of Philadelphia.

The county of New York, the most im-  
portant political, mercantile, industrial and  
commercial constituency of the New World,  
will be represented in the Fifty-sixth Con-  
gress, which convenes on Monday, by a dele-  
gation to the House of Representatives that  
will puzzle the country's wise men. All ten  
are Democrats—there is not a solitary Repu-  
blican representative from the county which  
rolled up 29,000 majority for WILLIAM McKIN-  
LEY in 1896 on a platform every plank of  
the platform of the party and every plank  
fulfilled and every opposing menace to pros-  
perity and public confidence repelled or re-  
moved.

The Miller formula for making money:  
Ask for it.

Every day in the Philippines engraves  
deeper on our military records the names of  
LAWTON, WHEATON, MACARTHUR and YOUNG,  
and their Commander-in-Chief, OTIS. Every  
day in the Philippines puts another word of  
credit to the patience, persistence and man-  
liness of the American soldier. While we are  
praising our own we cannot refrain from say-  
ing a word of acknowledgment for the valor  
shown by Briton and Boer on the battlefields  
of South Africa. They are all men.

The Bryanites continue to look fondly  
upon Kansas and believe it theirs. The Fu-  
sionists carried six counties, straight, in the  
recent election; the Republicans carried  
twenty-nine.

## "The Coming Conflict in the Episcopal Church."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Your  
editorial of Nov. 29 gives the impression  
that there is an eve of a rupture in the Epis-  
copal Church. I am not sure that it is  
not a little premature to say that it is  
allow me to correct this impression, as I am  
rather intimately associated with what is  
known as the anti-rationalist movement in  
the Church.

With reference to holy matrimony we are  
legally bound to two views. One is that  
those who consider it a life-long binding  
contract, and those who consider that Jesus  
Christ sanctioned remarriage of the innocent  
party to a divorce. Bishop Potter has  
strategically opposed what has been called  
the High Church view of this question, but  
at the same time he has not been able to  
greatly surprise his clergy, but he has come  
to the conclusion that the only solution of  
the difficulty is to be found in the Epis-  
copal Church not allowing its order for the  
"solemnization of matrimony" to be used  
for a divorced party under any circumstances.

This will, of course, result in a "divorce  
of fashion" to avail themselves either of the  
civil law or of those ministers of Protestant  
denominations who allow divorce under  
certain circumstances.

At the same time it is probable that at the  
next General Convention of 1901 the question  
of the validity of the Fourth Episcopalian  
Chapman's case will be brought before the  
General Convention. On the contrary, he was  
opposed to his leaving a very large church in  
Philadelphia and taking this small and un-  
known church. Now, if these two statements  
are not contradictory, I do not know the En-  
glish language.

I am not aware as "An Elder" that Dr.  
Chapman is a Presbyterian, but I have yet to  
learn that Mr. Moody or Mr. Morgan is, and it  
was with reference to them I made my inquiry.  
As a Presbyterian for more years than "An  
Elder" has been on this earth, I want to know  
the rights of Mr. Moody and Mr. Morgan as to  
the movement of Dr. Chapman or Mr. Potter  
Presbyterian minister, or interfere in our  
church affairs?

"A small and unknown church" This is said  
of a church founded in 1773, sixty or seventy  
years before John Van Hook was born or  
before the first Episcopalian church was  
founded in this city, with a Benevolent Society  
dating from 1795, a Ladies' Bible Society  
founded in 1824, a Bible Society dating  
from 1834. As shades of Dr. Thompson  
and his revered predecessors, and of the Ste-  
vens, the Atkins, the Harrison, the Mel-  
lons and hundreds of others, leading citizens  
of this town in their day, rise and listen to  
what "An Elder" of your old church says con-  
cerning it!

Will "An Elder" deny that he consulted Mr.  
Moody regarding the pastorate of this church?  
Will he deny that after such consultation he  
went post haste to a town upon the State on a  
Sunday and conferred with Dr. Chapman re-  
garding the vacancy? Will he deny that  
almost, if not entirely, on his recommendation  
the Committee on Supply went in a body to  
Bethel Church, where he was called, and that  
he was ordained as pastor of that church? Will  
he deny that he was called to the pastorate of  
this church? Will he deny that he was called  
to the pastorate of this church? Will he deny  
that he was called to the pastorate of this church?

Not being a member of Dr. Chapman's  
church, let it be understood that my letter had  
no possible animus against him. I congratu-  
late him on his success so far, and sincerely  
wish him godspeed in his new field. He is  
doubtless an earnest and brilliant preacher,  
with a charming personality, and, if he develops  
into a good "pastor," he will combine in him-  
self two qualities rarely met with in ministers  
nowadays.

As to the old school of Presbyterians let me  
warn him, however, against allowing his  
friend "An Elder" to gauge his value by dollars  
and cents, which is the curse of the Church to-  
day. Don't let his sixty-two new members be  
paralleled with "the tearing out of the gallery  
seats" and the \$25,000 of increased pew  
rents, or the 125 new Sunday school scholars  
by the 75 per cent increase of children's con-  
tributions. This brings his church down to the  
level of "An Elder's" Carnegie Hall revival  
meetings, and it is this tendency that is wreck-  
ing our churches and forcing men like me to  
the conclusion that as a rule, evangelists do  
not make good pastors in their real sense, pro-  
viding for "swinging round the circle." Con-  
gratulations to Dr. Chapman if he proves himself  
an exception. Will Dr. Morgan, if called, be  
another? My information regarding Mr.  
Moody and his call was given me by a Presby-  
terian minister and his name was not given.  
I did not say Mr. Moody had been issued by  
1,000 letters. I said they had been issued by  
or emanated from him. Possibly "An Elder"  
can give us the exact number and exactly  
whence they emanated. A MEMBER.  
NEW YORK, Nov. 27.

## She Admires Our Cops.

From the *Galveston Daily News*.  
The magnificent police corps of New York strikes  
me with admiration. Every time I go downtown,  
especially at the junction of Broadway and  
Twenty-third street—such fine Irish giants!  
It makes me utter a prayer to St. Patrick that the  
Kew-Forest lad could produce anything so fine to  
guard public safety.

Harper's Magazine for December is a Chris-  
mas number, and appears in a white and gold  
cover, with contents fitting for the season. Some  
of the contributions are: Sir Edwin  
Arnold, with a poem, "The Birth of William  
Perkins," a charming essay on "Children" by E. S.  
Martin, charmingly illustrated by Sarah S. Stilwell,  
Susan L. Ewans, "The Madonna of the Madonna of  
Mark Twain," John Van Hook, Virginia Boyd,  
Howard Pyle, Sir Martin Conway and Julian Ralph,  
Thomas A. Janvier and Miss Lella Herpeth, who  
ends her series of articles descriptive of Wash-  
ington, "Home and Household," Mr. Howells's  
"Silver Wedding Journey" and also.

## SEVERE FIGHTING IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The action fought by the Kimberley relief  
column under Gen. Methuen on Tuesday  
was preliminary to the passage of the Modder  
River, which he reports as in full flood. The  
Boers were entrenched on the north bank,  
the north bank, having two heavy guns and  
four Krupp field pieces in position, their  
force being said to number 8,000, in  
which would be included the commandos that  
were driven from Belmont and Easlin. The  
action began on the part of the British by a  
continuous cannonade from the field batteries  
and rifle fire from the infantry lining the south  
bank of the Modder River. Under cover of  
this fire that lasted throughout the day the  
British succeeded in getting a small force  
across the stream through the exertions of  
the Engineers, who used gas balloons and the  
collapsible boats now in use in the British  
army.

The Boers were eventually driven from their  
position, and the British are no doubt by this  
time established on the north bank of the  
river, the Boers still some twenty miles  
to the north before they come in touch  
with the Kimberley garrison, and the Boers  
are said to have a strong position at Sny-  
fontein, eleven miles beyond the Modder.

No estimates of the British losses in what  
Gen. Methuen describes in his official account  
of the fight as one of the hardest and most  
valuable in the annals of the British army are given;  
of the Boer loss, nothing would of course be  
known until after the crossing of the river.

The details of the British losses at Belmont  
and Easlin are still incomplete, but the figures  
show that the loss was not heavy, and  
especially in officers. The Boer reports of  
their losses are obviously unreliable, they  
having scattered, after their fashion, after each  
fight and some of them having given them-  
selves up, leaving their dead unburied and  
their wounded lying at the same time, they  
do not appear to have anything like equalled  
those of the British.

The latest detailed list of the British Army  
in South Africa shows that it is composed of 13  
cavalry regiments or portions of regiments, 4  
batteries of horse artillery, 22 field batteries,  
mountain batteries, 2 companies of garrison  
artillery, 54 batteries of infantry, 30 com-  
panies army service corps, 10 companies army  
medical corps and 5 companies army ordnance  
corps. In addition, there are 3 companies of  
fortress, 4 companies of field, 2 companies  
railway, and 1 division telegraph engineers.  
Airdrop section balloon engineers; one  
brigade of mounted infantry, one mounted  
troop. Out of these has to be deducted one  
battalion of mountain artillery, two battalions  
of infantry, and part of a regiment of cavalry  
prisoners at Pretoria.

A fifth division for South Africa is now being  
formed in England, and will number 11,013  
officers and men, with 1,233 horses, 18 field  
and 9 machine guns.

## The Presbyterian Church and Mr. Moody.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: The real  
facts of the case are, writes "An Elder"  
to THE SUN, "that Mr. Moody had nothing  
to do with the calling of the Rev. J. Wilber  
Chapman to the pastorate of the Fourth Presby-  
terian Church. On the contrary, he was op-  
posed to his leaving a very large church in  
Philadelphia and taking this small and un-  
known church. Now, if these two statements  
are not contradictory, I do not know the En-  
glish language."

I am not aware as "An Elder" that Dr.  
Chapman is a Presbyterian, but I have yet to  
learn that Mr. Moody or Mr. Morgan is, and it  
was with reference to them I made my inquiry.  
As a Presbyterian for more years than "An  
Elder" has been on this earth, I want to know  
the rights of Mr. Moody and Mr. Morgan as to  
the movement of Dr. Chapman or Mr. Potter  
Presbyterian minister, or interfere in our  
church affairs?

"A small and unknown church" This is said  
of a church founded in 1773, sixty or seventy  
years before John Van Hook was born or  
before the first Episcopalian church was  
founded in this city, with a Benevolent Society  
dating from 1795, a Ladies' Bible Society  
founded in 1824, a Bible Society dating  
from 1834. As shades of Dr. Thompson  
and his revered predecessors, and of the Ste-  
vens, the Atkins, the Harrison, the Mel-  
lons and hundreds of others, leading citizens  
of this town in their day, rise and listen to  
what "An Elder" of your old church says con-  
cerning it!

Will "An Elder" deny that he consulted Mr.  
Moody regarding the pastorate of this church?  
Will he deny that after such consultation he  
went post haste to a town upon the State on a  
Sunday and conferred with Dr. Chapman re-  
garding the vacancy? Will he deny that  
almost, if not entirely, on his recommendation  
the Committee on Supply went in a body to  
Bethel Church, where he was called, and that  
he was ordained as pastor of that church? Will  
he deny that he was called to the pastorate of  
this church? Will he deny that he was called  
to the pastorate of this church? Will he deny  
that he was called to the pastorate of this church?

Not being a member of Dr. Chapman's  
church, let it be understood that my letter had  
no possible animus against him. I congratu-  
late him on his success so far, and sincerely  
wish him godspeed in his new field. He is  
doubtless an earnest and brilliant preacher,  
with a charming personality, and, if he develops  
into a good "pastor," he will combine in him-  
self two qualities rarely met with in ministers  
nowadays.

As to the old school of Presbyterians let me  
warn him, however, against allowing his  
friend "An Elder" to gauge his value by dollars  
and cents, which is the curse of the Church to-  
day. Don't let his sixty-two new members be  
paralleled with "the tearing out of the gallery  
seats" and the \$25,000 of increased pew  
rents, or the 125 new Sunday school scholars  
by the 75 per cent increase of children's con-  
tributions. This brings his church down to the  
level of "An Elder's" Carnegie Hall revival  
meetings, and it is this tendency that is wreck-  
ing our churches and forcing men like me to  
the conclusion that as a rule, evangelists do  
not make good pastors in their real sense, pro-  
viding for "swinging round the circle." Con-  
gratulations to Dr. Chapman if he proves himself  
an exception. Will Dr. Morgan, if called, be  
another? My information regarding Mr.  
Moody and his call was given me by a Presby-  
terian minister and his name was not given.  
I did not say Mr. Moody had been issued by  
1,000 letters. I said they had been issued by  
or emanated from him. Possibly "An Elder"  
can give us the exact number and exactly  
whence they emanated. A MEMBER.  
NEW YORK, Nov. 27.

## A Woman on Marriage.

From the *Memphis Commercial Appeal*.  
"Not one woman in a thousand marries the man  
she wants," says Mrs. White, president of the Cal-  
ifornia Club, a large women's organization. "Women,  
as a rule, do not choose their husbands because  
it is not permitted them to do so. They must  
what they can get. Women dare not show a pre-  
ference unless she desires to shock society by an  
election of inferiority and repel the man she seeks,  
she looks upon marriage as a duty." "Society is  
simply a marriage market," according to  
this eminent authority. "Our young women are  
trained and educated and groomed with the one  
view of making a good showing in this marriage  
market of increasing value. All the accom-  
plishments of fashionable society, the environment,  
the amusements and the dress are arranged and  
devised for the purpose of attracting and calling  
attention to the woman. Our men, on the other  
hand, are trained and educated for the purpose of  
the market, and select women simply as  
commodities, and do not choose their wives  
because she wishes to do so. Mrs. White concludes